

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE BILL 503

Short Title: School Calendar Flexibility/Certain Counties. (Local)

Sponsors: Representative Whitmire (Primary Sponsor).

*For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.*

Referred to: Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Education.

April 3, 2013

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FLEXIBILITY TO CERTAIN COUNTY BOARDS  
3 OF EDUCATION IN ADOPTING THE SCHOOL CALENDAR.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-84.2(d) reads as rewritten:

6 "(d) Opening and Closing Dates. – Local boards of education shall determine the dates  
7 of opening and closing the public schools under subdivision (a)(1) of this section. Except for  
8 year-round schools, the opening date for students shall be no earlier than ~~the Monday closest to~~  
9 ~~August 26, August 15,~~ and the closing date for students shall be no later than ~~June 1, the Friday~~  
10 ~~closest to June 11. On a showing of good cause, the State Board of Education may waive the~~  
11 ~~requirement that the opening date for students be no earlier than the Monday closest to August~~  
12 ~~26 and may allow the local board of education to set an opening date no earlier than the~~  
13 ~~Monday closest to August 19, to the extent that school calendars are able to provide sufficient~~  
14 ~~days to accommodate anticipated makeup days due to school closings. A local board may~~  
15 ~~revise the scheduled closing date if necessary in order to comply with the minimum~~  
16 ~~requirements for instructional days or instructional time. For purposes of this subsection, the~~  
17 ~~term "good cause" means that schools in any local school administrative unit in a county have~~  
18 ~~been closed eight days per year during any four of the last 10 years because of severe weather~~  
19 ~~conditions, energy shortages, power failures, or other emergency situations.~~

20 ~~The required opening and closing dates under this subsection shall not apply to any school~~  
21 ~~that a local board designated as having a modified calendar for the 2003-2004 school year or to~~  
22 ~~any school that was part of a planned program in the 2003-2004 school year for a system of~~  
23 ~~modified calendar schools, so long as the school operates under a modified calendar."~~

24 **SECTION 2.** This act applies only to the Polk and Transylvania County school  
25 administrative units.

26 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with  
27 the 2013-2014 school year.

